

SILVER WEDDING IS LOVELY AFFAIR

**Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Fulton
Celebrate Twenty-Fifth
Anniversary of Their
Wedding at Wise—More
Than 60 Guests Present**

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Fulton celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding Friday, December 13, at their home on Birchfield street.

Little Miss Verna Mae Barr dressed in a pretty white crepe de chine dress, bearing a silver card tray, opened the front door, and upon entering Mrs. R. R. Roberts invited the guests into the living room where Mrs. Fulton gown in a handsome brown lace dress, wearing a corsage of American beauty roses, Mr. Fulton with a most gracious manner, Mrs. Curtis Richmond, their daughter, dressed in beautiful black brocade silk, little two year old Anne Fulton Richmond, their only grandchild, beautifully dressed in blue crepe de chine with touches of pink, conducting herself in such a ladylike manner, won the admiration of all those present, Mrs. N. F. Hix, sister, attired in a black lace dress with trimmings of blue, and Mrs. N. R. Dotson, an aunt, was dressed in black lace over white satin, stood in the receiving line.

The house was decorated throughout with potted ferns and pink carnations.

Mrs. W. B. Addington and Mrs. E. H. McElroy conducted the guests to the dining room, where many pink and white wax tapers cast a soft light, from the chandelier hung a beautiful pink wedding bell, and the color scheme of pink and white was carried out in decorations and refreshments. A delicious salad course was served followed by ice cream, moulded in a pink wedding bell, macaroons, pink and white, heart shaped mints and salted almonds. Mrs. H. A. Lucy and Mrs. E. L. Barr sat at the table and poured coffee from Silver Coffee Urns. Mesdames J. H. Vickers, W. H. Lipps, C. F. Bruce, Misses Lila Vickers, Sarah Beatty and Jacqueline Hix assisted with the serving.

During the afternoon music was rendered by the following: Mrs. James Dale, accompanied by Mrs. Charles Bickley, sang, "Call Me Thine Own." Mrs. Carrie Alderson sang, "When you and I were young Maggie." N. F. Hix rendered several instrumental selections; Mrs. W. G. Moran and Mrs. James Dale sang two duets.

Mr. and Mrs. Fulton were the recipients of many beautiful silver gifts.

There were about sixty guests in attendance at this most hospitable affair. Among the out of town guests were: Dr. and Mrs. J. A. McGuire, Mrs. T. M. Cherry, Mrs. H. M. Miles and Mrs. R. A. Richmond, of Norton, Miss Kitty Graves and mother of Bristol, and Miss Idella Myers, of Pennsylvania.

CHARMING SOCIAL EVENTS FILL BUSY WEEK AT WISE

**Fortnightly Club and Mrs.
C. R. McCorkle Entertain
—Other Items of Much
Interest**

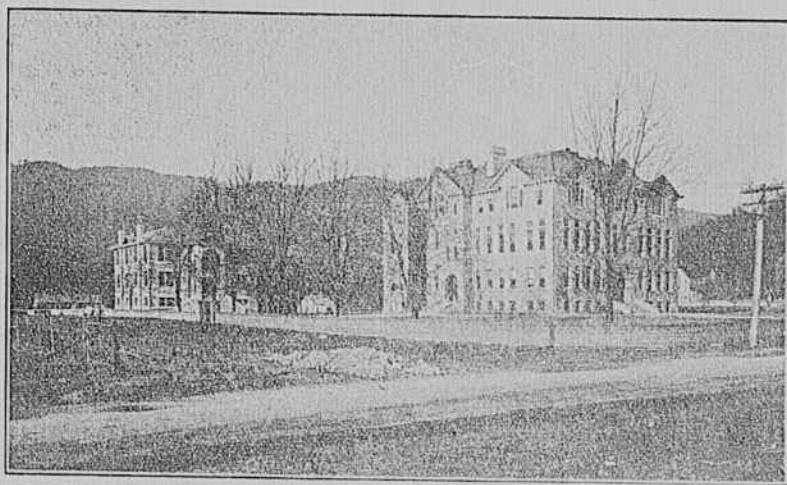
The Fortnightly Club met at the home of Mrs. Docta Bickley Wednesday, November 29th. Those present in addition to the members were: Mrs. E. B. Broadwater, Miss Kate Lay, Mrs. Ollie Stallard, Mrs. W. B. Hamilton, Mrs. W. G. Moran, Mrs. C. R. McCorkle, Mrs. O. B. Gilly and Mrs. James Dale.

Members and guests enjoyed a delightful course consisting of chicken salad, oyster patties, celery, cranberries, hot rolls, cake and coffee. The favors were dainty mints in attractive containers.

Among the numerous social events which occurred in Wise during Thanksgiving week, one of the most charming was the afternoon social with which Mrs. C. R. McCorkle entertained the Fortnightly Club.

The guests took a lively interest in a progressive "Geographical Contest" played at four tables. Mrs. Carrie Alderson won the highest

BIG STONE'S SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND CAMPUS



The New \$50,000 Big Stone Gap High School Building (Left) and the Old Building Which is Now Used for the Primary and Grammar Grades

THOROUGHNESS OF SCHOLARSHIP AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION IS FOUND AMONG GREATEST NEEDS FOR BETTER SCHOOLS

REPUTATION

Big Stone Gap has the reputation of being a good school town. We appreciate the value of such a reputation, and it is our aim not only to maintain this reputation but to extend it and make it greater. So, we asked Mr. H. L. Sulfridge, head of the local schools, to tell how our schools may be improved. What he has to say is of real interest to every patron in the district.

EDITOR

By H. L. SULFRIDGE

SINCE I have been requested to tell how our schools may be improved it will be my purpose in this brief article to suggest a few things we may do to accomplish this purpose.

Quality of Work

One of the commonest criticisms of the public schools today is that we fail to do our work thoroughly. To a certain extent this criticism is just and we public school people feel the force of it keenly. This criticism applies to every public school of my acquaintance. Admitting this, the only sensible thing to do is to face the problem honestly and endeavor to solve it. But the solution will take much time and patience.

Our critics usually point to the old academies and private schools and remind us of the thorough manner in which they taught. True enough, but they seem to forget that those old academies and private schools usually had limited numbers and a select group of students, while the public school is trying to educate all classes. That makes our problem decidedly more difficult.

In working for thoroughness in our public schools, two or three things are essential to our success. In the first place, we must have the intelligent support of our patrons. Some time ago I had a business man say to me: "I don't want my boy promoted. He doesn't know his Arithmetic well enough." Assuming that this man knew what he was

talking about, he is just the type of patron we must have if we are to secure thoroughness in our school work. There is too much clamoring on the part of both parents and pupils for promotion certificates, notes, and the credits. Not that these tangible evidences of advancement are bad in themselves, but that in our anxiety to obtain them we would lower the standards of scholarship on which they should be based. A high school diploma awarded on evidence of real scholarship and a high standard of personal merit is a beautiful and worthy attainment, but granted on any other basis it is a thing of questionable value and may be positively injurious.

Teachers Are Willing

Pupils in their progress through school must be led to place a high value on thoroughness. This can usually be done provided parents and teachers alike emphasize the importance of high standards. My acquaintance with teachers leads me to believe that they are for the most part willing and desirous of working for thoroughness, but they often find it an uphill pull, especially if the pupils and parents are indifferent to the importance of what the teachers are trying to do.

Finally, I think it is possible that we are trying to cover too much subject matter in our public school courses. If this is true, the blame must be placed on those who formulate the State Course of Study. But, even admitting that the courses are too comprehensive, we might avoid this difficulty in the way of thoroughness by carefully defining our aims and placing emphasis on the things the pupils should know, especially well here in Wise County we are now making an effort to define specific aims in the various subjects in the high school. Once we have these aims clearly defined we hope to place emphasis in such manner that certain definite results can be obtained. But the problem of securing thoroughness and maintaining a high standard of scholarship for those who receive physical education and physical training have been introduced into all the best school systems of the country. Here in Big

Stone Gap we are handicapped in our efforts to give an effective course in physical education for two reasons: first, our schedule is already so crowded that we have little time for it in connection with the regular school work; and, in the second place, we have no suitable place to give such training during the winter season. However, realizing the great importance of physical education, we have no means an easy one, and in order to achieve a satisfactory solution we must have the cooperation and support of all concerned.

Physical Education

During the late war the selective draft revealed to us the serious need for physical education. About one man out of every four examined for military service was found to be physically unfit. As a result of this and importance of looking after the proper physical development of the pupils, we do give physical drills both in the classroom and on the playground when the weather permits. In addition, the children are taught numerous games suitable to their age and grade. In the high school, the hand ball teams are organized and track athletics are emphasized. But we are not doing what we should do along the line of physical education for the reasons mentioned above.

We need a gymnasium, and I think we should plan to secure a building for its purpose within the next two or three years. A building to meet our community requirements should contain a room large enough for a gymnasium and auditorium combined. This room could be used for basketball and other indoor games as well as for physical drills. There should be shower baths and dressing rooms for both girls and boys. In addition, there should be a community library and reading room. Such a building could be made a sort of community center and thereby serve the needs of the entire town as well as the school. In fact one of the greatest needs of Big Stone Gap is a place where young people can spend their leisure time in wholesome recreation.

COKE PRODUCTION STILL ON INCREASE

**Coal Production Drops 12-
112 Tons for Week Ending
December 2, 1922**

The weekly coal production report for the week ending December 2, 1922, shows that coke produced in this field reached the highest mark so far this year. A total of 13,284 tons were produced for the week. Coal went down and a total of 151,621 tons reported, a decrease over the previous week of 12,112 tons.

The N. & W. handled 24,274 tons for the week; the Norton and Northern 2,388 tons; the Interstate 24,950 tons; Southern 31,149 tons, and the C. C. & O. 942 tons; a total of 129,703.

COUNTY CHAMP IS OUT TALKED BY GIRLS

The auditorium of the Wise High School was the scene of exultation Thursday morning when two girls of the Nightingale Literary Society defeated two boys of the Phoenix Literary Society in a debate. Robert Belcher was presiding President and Nannie Ellen Lipps, presiding Secretary of the meeting. Burns Fulton and Carl Hamilton, the boys' team, accepted their defeat with good grace. Beatrice Hylton, who, with Carl Hamilton, was county representative at Charlottesville last year, and Nannie Daugherty, a new speaker, were representing the girls. The question for debate was, Resolved, That the United States should build and maintain a larger navy. From the reports and statistics given, it could be discerned that the debaters had worked very hard for their sides. Miss Hylton and Miss Daugherty, especially are to be congratulated, as they began working rather late. The speeches of Fulton and Hamilton also were very fine and showed a good knowledge of the subject. Fulton especially showed wide research, a good knowledge of the country and its statistics, and a large vocabulary.

COUNCIL HAS SAVED BIG STONE MONEY

The town council for the last few years have done some big things for the town's future welfare and interest.

When the mountain slid down over the Southern Railroad and threatened our pass way through the Gap, the council got busy and contracted their town limits so as to leave this part of the road outside of town to the county. The county supervisors and Commonwealth's Attorney did not appreciate this generous gift of the town, as it was estimated to cost the county over one hundred thousand dollars to build cement walls and protect this road but arrangements were made to turn this over to the state highway and they have made a nice job of it and the road is secure through the Gap. If this had been done by the town we would have had to issue bonds and would have had no money to build our streets in town.

The council looking forward to the needs of a great city which Big Stone Gap will be some day, have purchased at a cost of twenty-four thousand dollars three thousand acres of land on High Knob at head of water supply and have built a cement dam so as to have a lake to hold over one hundred million gallons of water. The lands and dam are more than half paid for and the water rents will pay for both in a few years.

The concrete foundation for the two and a half miles of road through town to the depots has been finished and the asphalt top will be laid as soon as weather will permit.

The next move contemplated by the members of the council is to obtain a union depot and more manufacturing industries.

COUNTY E. L. UNION MEETS AT COEBURN FRIDAY EVENING

**Musical Tea and Many Other
Activities Crowd Week
in Border City**

The Wise County Epworth League Union meets Friday evening, December 15th at the Methodist church. Good music, good program. Everybody is invited to attend.

A delightful musical tea was given by the ladies of the Methodist Church at the home of Mrs. D. C. Perry on Thursday from 3:30 till 9:00 o'clock. Music was furnished in the evening by the Coeburn Orchestra. Delicious refreshments were served. A silver offering was taken.

Myra Cawood spent the week-end with relatives in Big Stone Gap.

Bessie Kilgore was confined to her home last week on account of tonsillitis.

Miss Halt spent Thanksgiving in Roanoke.

Miss Martin, Etta Hillman, Edna McConnell, Mary McCarty, Leslie Hillman, L. J. Wolfe and Roy Horne attended the football game at Em-

(Continued on page 8.)

CLASS SOCIAL WAS GREAT SUCCESS

**Many Hear Good Speaking,
Good Music and Have
Plenty to Eat at Sunday
School Social**

The few who failed to attend the Sunday School Class Social given at the Methodist church on last Wednesday night missed many good things and it is not likely they will be absent next time if there should happen to be another one, after they have learned the "inside facts."

Aside from the splendid social enjoyment the attendants were given a rare treat of good speaking, instrumental and vocal music, and a course of refreshments that was equal to a hotel menu. Short talks were made by Prof. Graham, of East Stone Gap, Prof. Sulfridge, Supt. Kelly, Mr. Mouser, Mrs. Skeen and Miss Sewell. Mr. Graham spoke on the very interesting subject of "How to conduct a Sunday School." Mr. Sulfridge was called on for a short speech and he tried to decline by saying that he thought the audience had heard enough from the school teachers and that he did not want to delay the program further as he "smelled something" that was appetizing. A few minutes later the ladies served refreshments while the crowd was told to make themselves at home, as all formalities would cease.

The music furnished by a four piece orchestra and a vocal solo by Miss Davenport was highly pleasing to the audience. Every one expressed themselves as having enjoyed the evening to the fullest extent and hoped the time would not be long off when another social of a like nature would be held. It is understood the younger folks of the Sunday school are thinking of having a "social" and will do their best to arrange a program that will surpass that of the older heads.

AMICON FRUIT CO. TO HAVE BRANCH IN NORTON, JANUARY 1

**Bluefield Concern Has Se-
cured Lease from N. & W.
Other News**

Representatives of the Amicon Fruit Company, of Bluefield, have been in Norton for the past week perfecting their arrangements to locate a branch house at this place. They have secured a lease from the N. & W. Railway Company adjoining the lot occupied by the Wise Hardware Company and expect to begin building soon after the first of the year.

Mrs. J. H. Skaggs was called to Johnson City on account of the serious illness of her brother who was injured by a shot by a passenger whom he was hauling in his car. The passenger was under the influence of whiskey and although he left the car as soon as the shooting occurred he was soon captured and placed in jail for safe keeping.

F. B. Kline, who was operated on for appendicitis last Sunday at the Norton Hospital is getting on nicely and will soon be out again.

Ralph McLemore spent the week-end with relatives at Wise.

Miss Pauline Fletcher, of Castlewood, Va., spent Sunday with her aunt, Mrs. C. A. Broadwater on Chestnut street.

G. E. Hueser, who was formerly located at Abingdon, Va., has accepted a position with the Norton Grocery Company and has come to take up his duties. His family will come as soon as he is able to get a suitable home.

J. D. Clay, of Coeburn, was in Norton Friday of his week.

Mr. Olan Gibson went to Roanoke last week on business.

Geo. Naft, with the Bristol Ice Cream Company, was in Norton Friday.

H. W. Renfro, of Dorchester, was in Norton on business Saturday.

J. P. Lay, of Coeburn, was calling on friends in Norton Thursday.

Miss Ethel White spent last week with relatives in Scott county.

Mrs. Mary Glenn Jessee is visiting relatives in Louisville.

Mr. Harvey Mende and son, Sam, attended the foot ball game at Roanoke last week.

The Cemetery Club had a doll sale on Saturday which netted them quite a nice little sum.